

Appl. No. 10/033,951
Amdt. Dated: June 4, 2004
Reply to Final Office Action of March 4, 2004

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

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LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1-5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (currently amended): ~~The suture screw as recited in Claim 5 wherein the tip of the pin has threads formed in an outer surface thereof.~~ A suture screw comprising:
a sleeve having a threaded outer surface and a longitudinal bore, the threads of the sleeve being interrupted at the distal end of sleeve; and
a pin having a tip and a shaft extending proximally from the tip, the tip of the pin having threads formed in an outer surface thereof, the shaft having at least one transverse bore extending from a first side of the shaft to a second side of the shaft, wherein the shaft is positioned within the longitudinal bore of the sleeve.

Claim 7 (original): The suture screw as recited in Claim 6, wherein the threads of the tip of the pin are interrupted.

Claim 8-10 (canceled)

Claim 11 (currently amended): ~~The suture screw as recited in Claim 10,~~ A suture screw for receipt of a length of suture to secure tissue to bone comprising:
a non-expandable outer sleeve having a longitudinal bore there through, the longitudinal bore having a predetermined cross-sectional shape; and
a pin having a distal tip and a shaft extending proximally from the tip and has a cross-sectional shape similar to the cross-sectional shape of the throughbore such that when the shaft is inserted into the throughbore, there is a minimal rotation between the pin and the sleeve, wherein

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the pin includes a transverse bore formed through the shaft for receipt of a length of suture.

Claim 12 (original): The suture screw as recited in Claim 11, wherein an inner surface of the throughbore and an outer surface of the shaft are formed with complimentary longitudinal channels extending from the throughbore proximally toward proximal ends of the pin and the sleeve.

Claim 13 (canceled)

Claim 14 (currently amended): A suture screw for receipt of a length of suture to secure tissue to bone comprising:

a non-expandable outer sleeve having a longitudinal bore there through, the longitudinal bore having a predetermined cross-sectional shape; and
a pin having a distal tip and a shaft extending proximally from the tip and has a cross-sectional shape similar to the cross-sectional shape of the throughbore such that when the shaft is inserted into the throughbore, there is a minimal rotation between the pin and the sleeve, wherein a portion of the outer surface of the tip is smooth and conical.

Claim 15-17 (canceled)